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**From:** "Heese, Ruth Hamilton (LAW)" ["Heese, Ruth Hamilton (LAW)" <ruth.hamilton.heese@alaska.gov>]  
**Sent:** 9/30/2012 9:42:27 PM  
**To:** Stephanie Kercheval/R10/USEPA/US@EPA; Cara Steiner-Riley/R10/USEPA/US@EPA; ara Steiner-Riley/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Assurance of Payment - 10-FOI-00264-12

Hello, Stephanie. Sorry for the delay in my response. I have been out of the office for the past few weeks.

I had understood from Cara that there would be no cost assessed to the State, so long as what the State sought was essentially what EPA was providing in response to the information requested by the House Congressional Committee and to a FOIA request refined by Pebble Limited Partnership. We also understood that EPA would provide the required privilege log ("Vaughan Index") of responsive documents that EPA is withholding, which would also be produced to the State at no cost. Please advise. Thanks.

Ruth Hamilton Heese

Senior Assistant Attorney General

Alaska Department of Law

907-465-3600

From: Stephanie Kercheval [Kercheval.Stephania@epamail.epa.gov]  
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 4:18 PM  
To: Heese, Ruth Hamilton (LAW)  
Subject: Fw: Request for Assurance of Payment - 10-FOI-00264-12

Hello Ms. Heese,

This is in follow-up to my September 11, 2012 email below and the voice message I left for you today.

Region 10 is waiting for your response on the assurance of payment for the process of your FOIA request related to records regarding Exercise of Authority under Section 404(c) of CWA on Development Projects in Bristol Bay Area. We are not asking that you immediately submit your payment to the EPA at this time, but we are asking for your written approval to charge your agency the amount quoted below in order to produce and finalize your FOIA request.

Please reply back to the email with your response or you may call me at the number listed below if you have questions concerning the estimate cost. If we do not receive a written response or phone call from you by Friday, October 5, 2012, we will assume that you are no longer interested in pursuing your request and will close your request without further notice.

Thank you.

Stephanie Kercheval  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region X  
Office Ecosystems, Tribal and Public Affairs  
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 - ETPA-124  
Seattle, WA 98101  
(206) 553-8665, Fax 553-0059  
kercheval.stephanie@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Stephanie Kercheval/R10/USEPA/US on 09/27/2012 04:45 PM -----

From: Stephanie Kercheval/R10/USEPA/US  
To: ruth.hamilton.heese@alaska.gov,  
Date: 09/11/2012 03:06 PM  
Subject: Request for Assurance of Payment - 10-FOI-00264-12

Ms. Heese,

Region 10 is in need of your assurance of payment for the process of FOIA request case number listed above as the cost to produce your request will exceed \$250.00. The estimate cost to produce your request under OTHER fee category is \$395.00. Upon receipt of your agreement to pay, Region 10 will proceed with finalizing your request. Please reply back to this email with your response. Thank you.

Stephanie Kercheval  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region X  
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